

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Endowments Department – Alaya Sevaka Pathakam (Temple Service Scheme) – Scheme for enlisting and utilizing free services of devotees in seven major temples – Guidelines – Issued.

G.O.Ms.No.220

Dt:18.05.2016

Read:-

ORDER:

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams has been implementing "**Srivari Sevakulu Scheme**" since November, 2000. This scheme has yielded good results as devotees who are enlisted to serve become part of the temple administrative system for a short period and provide voluntary services with devotion to the visiting pilgrims. Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam started this scheme with only 195 volunteers. Till date 6.69 Lakh volunteers have rendered service during the last 15 years.

2. Presently, in all the temples, it is the employees of the temple who are providing such services. However, in providing such services the devotion aspect as well as the spirit of service is usually missing. Temples are centres of Hindu Dharmic activity and devotion is of utmost importance in rendering any service. "Manava Seva is Madhavab Seva" is the noble ideal of Hindu Dharma. Keeping this in view, the following instructions are issued to the Seven Major Temples:

- i) The Commissioner of Endowments shall organize a trip in the 1st week of June, 2016 with all 7 Executive Officers to Tirupati and Tirumala and study the functioning of Srivari Sevakulu Scheme. They shall visit the various places where Srivari Sevakulu are allotted duties as well as the place where the Sevakulu are provided boarding and lodging facilities and assess the arrangements.
- ii) Executive Officers should interact with TTD officials who are implementing and monitoring the Srivari Sevakulu Scheme.
- iii) Executive Officers should study the procedure followed for allotting duties to Srivari Sevaks.
- iv) After a thorough study of the functioning of Srivari Sevaka Scheme, the Executive Officers shall implement the scheme.
- v) The Commissioner of Endowments shall issue a major advertisement in newspapers calling for applications from devotees to apply for Alaya Seva Pathakam in any of the seven major temples of their choice. The temple websites also can carry the announcement.
- vi) The Sevakas should be taken for duration of either 7 / 15 days. They can belong to any part of India.
- vii) The Executive Officers of the temple will provide free boarding and lodging facility and issue an identity card on the first day which is returnable on the last day.
- viii) On the last day, the Sevakas should be offered darsanam of the deity and given some prasadam, calendar / temple magazine etc. to the Sevaks.
- ix) A minimum check on the antecedents of the Sevakas is needed before their service is enlisted.
- x) No honorarium need be paid to any Sevaka, not even transportation charges.
- xi) A responsible officer should be designated, preferably PRO or an

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Assistant Executive Officer of the temple concerned to handle the affairs of the Sevakas.

xii) At least one thousand Sevakas should be enrolled in each major temple. The scheme should be rolled out by Executive Officers by 1st July, 2016 in the seven major temples.

3) The EOs of 7 major temples shall take necessary action.

4) The areas of service may include the following:

Annaprasadam, Vigilance, Free health care, maintenance of gardens, monitoring the tonsuring work at Kalyan Katta, working in book stalls, Parakamani Seva (Counting of Hundi collection), distribution of prasadam, regulation of queue lines, free distribution of water and butter milk, working in goshala etc.

5) The general procedure to be involved may be as follows:

- a) Enable people to register freely online or by post or telephone.
- b) Form a group of 10 to 25 such enrolled Sevakas into a group.
- c) Inform Sevakas by SMS to their mobile and seek their confirmation of free service clearly indicating the dates.
- d) Thereafter enrolled Sevakas shall fill up the application form along with passport size photo and ID proof.
- e) Biometrics of all volunteers should be captured.
- f) For every group of Sevakas a team leader may to be appointed.
- g) On the day they reach the temple, they will be provided ID Card / Orange colored scarf. The volunteers will also be allotted dedicated accommodation free of cost. They would also be provided food in Annadana Satram, three times a day (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner).
- h) After completion of service the Scarfs and ID Cards should be returned to the temple.
- i) Lady volunteers should be provided accommodation separately.

6) The Sevakas shall not be above the age of 65 years.

7) Every batch of Sevakas shall be given counselled/trained briefly at the time of commencement of Seva.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

J.S.V. PRASAD
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of Endowments, A.P., Hyderabad,
The Executive Officer, TTD, Tirupati.
The Executive Officers of 7 major temples through the Commissioner,
Endowments Department, A.P., Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The PS to Minister (Endowments),
The P.S to Principal Secy. (Endowments).

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SECTION OFFICER